

*Counsel for Plaintiff*

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

**THERESA BROWER,  
17 Hillside Avenue  
Barnegat, NJ 08005  
Plaintiff,**

**V.**

**THE MARSHALL RETAIL GROUP, LLC**  
**1 Borgata Way**  
**Atlantic City, NJ 08401**

**3755 W Sunset Boulevard  
Las Vegas, NV 89118  
Defendant.**

**Civil Action No.: 3:21-cv-10960**

# AMENDED COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

# AMENDED COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Theresa Brower, by and through her counsel, Koller Law LLC, hereby files this Complaint against Defendant, The Marshall Retail Group, LLC, alleging violations under the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. § 10:5-12. In support thereof, Plaintiff avers as follows:

## **IDENTIFICATION OF THE PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff, Theresa Brower (“Plaintiff”), is an individual resident of the State of New Jersey whose residence is located at 17 Hillside Avenue, Barnegat, NJ 08005.
2. Defendant, The Marshall Retail Group, LLC (“Defendant”), is a chain of specialty retail stores in the casino-resort and airport marketplace with a location at 1 Borgata Way, Atlantic

City, NJ 08401 and with a corporate headquarters located at 3755 W Sunset Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89118.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

3. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if set forth more fully at length herein.

4. Jurisdiction and venue are proper in this Court as facts and circumstances that give rise to this Complaint occurred in the State of New Jersey, and Defendant is considered at home in the State of New Jersey.

### **MATERIAL FACTS**

5. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if set forth more fully at length herein.

6. Plaintiff was born on July 18, 1957.

7. On December 31, 2016, Defendant hired Plaintiff in the position of Sales Associate.

8. Plaintiff was well qualified for her position and performed well.

9. Plaintiff's coworkers and Supervisors were in their 20's and 30's.

10. Throughout Plaintiff's employment, Plaintiff's coworkers and supervisors frequently asked her how old she was.

11. Plaintiff felt that these questions were inappropriate and refused to answer.

12. In or around mid-2019, a Supervisor (20's) made Plaintiff wait when she informed her that she had to use the restroom.

13. This Supervisor frequently stated to Plaintiff that she should wear a diaper.

14. When Plaintiff informed the Supervisor that she was not a baby, the Supervisor commented that she should put on depends before work.

15. Plaintiff was shocked and appalled by this Supervisor's discriminatory and derogatory comment directed towards her age.

16. This Supervisor continued to make similar comments to Plaintiff approximately every shift that she supervised Plaintiff.

17. Plaintiff attempted to complain to Debra Love (early 40's), Store Manager, in person about this Supervisor's discriminatory comments.

18. However, Ms. Love waived her hand and walked away from Plaintiff when she attempted to complain. Ms. Love took no action to address Plaintiff's complaints.

19. In or around August 2019, Plaintiff called Defendant's corporate office and complained about the supervisor's discriminatory comments and Ms. Love's refusal to address her complaints.

20. Immediately following Plaintiff's complaint to Defendant's corporate office, Ms. Love was visibly angry with Plaintiff.

21. Ms. Love stated to Plaintiff that she "messed" with Defendant and proceeded to ignore her.

22. In or around September 2019, Ms. Love issued Plaintiff a written discipline for calling out sick.

23. That same month, Ms. Love issued Plaintiff a second written discipline for allegedly having a bad secret shopper.

24. However, Ms. Love refused to provide Plaintiff the video footage or any evidence of Plaintiff's alleged bad secret shopper.

25. In the end of October 2019, Ms. Love terminated Plaintiff for using the customer parking lot instead of the employee parking lot.

26. Plaintiff had previously been informed that she could park in the customer parking lot.

27. In addition, multiple Sales Associates in their 20's parked in the customer parking lot, but were not disciplined or terminated for doing so.

28. It is Plaintiff's position that she was discriminated against due to her age and retaliated against for her complaints in violation of the NJLAD.

**COUNT I – AGE DISCRIMINATION**  
**NEW JERSEY LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION, N.J.S.A. 10:5-12**

29. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if set forth more fully at length herein.

30. Plaintiff was born on July 18, 1957.

31. Plaintiff was qualified to perform the job.

32. Defendant terminated Plaintiff.

33. Defendant treated younger employees more favorably than Plaintiff.

34. Defendant has no legitimate non-discriminatory reason for its actions.

35. As a result of Defendant's unlawful age discrimination, Plaintiff has suffered damages as set forth herein.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff, Theresa Brower, requests that the Court grant her relief against Defendant, The Marshall Retail Group, LLC, included in the Prayer for Relief, *infra*.

**COUNT II – RETALIATION**  
**NEW JERSEY LAW AGAINST DISCRIMINATION, N.J.S.A. 10:5-12**

36. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if set forth more fully at length herein.

37. Plaintiff engaged in activity protected by the NJLAD when she complained of age discrimination to Defendant.

38. Thereafter, Defendant took adverse employment actions against Plaintiff, including, but not limited to, termination.

39. There exists a causal connection between Plaintiff's participation on the protected

activity and the adverse employment action.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff, Theresa Brower, requests that the Court grant her relief against Defendant, The Marshall Retail Group, LLC, included in the Prayer for Relief, *infra*.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff, Theresa Brower, requests that the Court grant her the following relief against Defendant, The Marshall Retail Group, LLC:

- (a) Compensatory damages;
- (b) Punitive damages (where applicable);
- (d) Emotional pain and suffering;
- (e) Reasonable attorneys' fees;
- (f) Recoverable costs;
- (g) Pre and post judgment interest;
- (h) An allowance to compensate for negative tax consequences;
- (i) A permanent injunction enjoining Defendant, its directors, officers, employees, agents, successors, heirs and assigns, and all persons in active concert or participation with it, from engaging in, ratifying, or refusing to correct, employment practices which discriminate in violation of the LAD.
- (j) Order Defendant to institute and implement, and for its employees, to attend and/or otherwise participate in, training programs, policies, practices and programs which provide equal employment opportunities;
- (k) Order Defendant to remove and expunge, or to cause to be removed and expunged, all negative, discriminatory, and/or defamatory memoranda and documentation from

Plaintiff's record of employment, including, but not limited to, the pre-textual reasons cited for its adverse actions, disciplines, and termination; and

(l) Awarding extraordinary, equitable and/or injunctive relief as permitted by law, equity and the statutory provisions sued hereunder.

**CERTIFICATION**

Pursuant to R. 4:5-1, it is hereby certified that, to the best of my knowledge, the matter in controversy is not subject of any other action pending in court or arbitration proceedings, and no other action is contemplated. I hereby also certify that to the best of my knowledge, and after diligent inquiry, the statements in the allegations made in the Complaint are true and correct. I understand that if any of the foregoing is willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

**JURY DEMAND**

The Plaintiff hereby demands trial by jury as to all issues and counts.

Respectfully Submitted,

**KOLLER LAW LLC**

**/s/ David M. Koller**

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*Counsel for Plaintiff*

Dated: May 10, 2021